

MANY AFFAIRS MARK COMING OF NEW YEAR

Open House Is Kept in Many Richmond Homes and in the Clubs.

YOUNGER SET ENTERTAINED

Reception at Hermitage Golf Club Is Event of This Afternoon—Watch Parties See Old Year Out in Many Parts of City.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Lewis, of Philadelphia, formerly of Richmond, announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Anna Valentine Lewis, to Harold Watkins Owens, of Howard County, Maryland. Mr. Owens is a nephew of ex-Governor Warfield, of Maryland, and Miss Lewis is a cousin of Congressman Andrew Jackson Montague, former Governor of Virginia.

New Year's eve was celebrated here with all sorts of novel and interesting affairs. Mrs. Juliet Chilton Keith and Judge James Keith were informally at home yesterday afternoon at their residence on Cathedral Place, as is their custom each year. The drawing-rooms were arranged with holly and red flowers and about fifty friends called during the afternoon.

Miss Louise Branch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kerr Branch, who is at home for the holidays, gave a small luncheon of ten covers yesterday at her residence, 1621 Monument Avenue. Miss Branch's guests were Misses Isabel Scott, Elizabeth Strother Scott, Elizabeth Gwaltney, Mary Taylor, Beth Palmer, Jane Strudwick, Anne Hawes and Eleanor Parrish.

Christmas greens and red blossoms decorated the home of Miss Lucy Beveridge, on Monument Avenue, yesterday afternoon for the card party given in honor of her guest, Miss Anna Griffith, of Louisiana. Six tables played and tea was served at the card tables after the game was concluded.

William Dodson McClellan was host to about fifty members of the younger set last evening at an old-fashioned New Year's party, given at the apartment of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. McClellan, in Monroe Terrace. The decorations were in keeping with the holiday season and were holly and poinsettias were used everywhere. There were all sorts of favors suggestive of Christmas which were distributed among the dancers and a buffet supper was served at 11 o'clock. Mr. and Mrs. McClellan received with their son and daughter and the guests remained to "watch the old year out and the New Year in."

Miss Helen Christian entertained at a luncheon Thursday in her West Franklin Street home. Her guests were Miss Irene Langhorne Gibson, the debutante daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dana Gibson. Covers were laid for twelve, and those asked to meet Miss Gibson were Misses Alice Munson, Mary Perkins, Ellen Beine, Scott, Mary Safford Munford, Martha Valentine, Ellen Wright Wise, Ann Myers, Frederica Campbell, Virginia Christian and Eugene Fairfax.

Miss Ethel Alston Cabell has left for Charleston, S. C., where she will act as bridesmaid for Miss Elizabeth Simonds on January 5, when she weds Felix Chisholm. Miss Simonds' mother was a Miss Branch and her marriage next week is of much interest to society here.

Reception at the Hermitage. The Hermitage Golf Club will hold its usual New Year's reception this afternoon at 4 o'clock. The following will act as a reception committee: Messrs. J. B. Reynolds, D. H. W. C. Locker, Peter Winston, Garrett E. Wall, Hunsdon Cary, Allen Helvin and Jean S. Jones, and Misses Caroline Preston, Daisy Winston, Margaret Ward, Mary Thompson, Margaret Chilton, Addie and Mary Arkin, Marvin Spicer, Ruth Bell, Lillian Anderson, Katherine Rhoads, Allen Apple, A. E. Hill, Lynda Koiner and Cammie Cary.

Married in Richmond. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McGee and Miss Kate McGee, both of Fayetteville, N. C., were married in the parlors of the Richmond Hotel on Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Rev. Russell Smith, D. D., pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, officiating.

Mrs. McGee is spending their honeymoon in the North and will be at home on their return in Fayetteville, N. C.

Mrs. Alfred W. Marshall, of Lexington, Ky., has announced the engagement of her daughter, Miss Sarah H. Marshall, to Thomas J. Wertenbaker, of Princeton.

Mrs. McVeigh Entertains. Mrs. Newton McVeigh entertained informally at tea yesterday afternoon from 3 to 6 o'clock at her home, 1028 West Franklin Street, the affair being given in honor of Miss Louise Wilmer. The rooms were decorated most effectively in a color scheme of white and green. Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. McVeigh, of New York, who were to have received with Mrs. McVeigh, were detained in New York on account of Mrs. McVeigh's illness with tonsillitis.

IN AND OUT OF TOWN.

Mrs. Alexander Wadsworth and her daughter are spending the week-end in Norfolk.

Gary Browne, of Bedford City, is visiting in Ginter Park, and will leave tomorrow to join his father and sister in Norfolk.

Dr. Frank P. Richter has returned from a visit to his home in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Miss Garnett and Stewart Jones have returned to the city after a hunting trip in King William County.

W. M. Arrington, of Nelson, is the guest of Mrs. R. I. Wade a few days.

J. & O. Promotes Wright. Announcement was made by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway that the station of C. S. Wright, train master headquarters in Richmond, had been enlarged to include the Piedmont and Washington divisions. Mr. Wright, assistant train master, is appointed train master in charge of the Chesapeake and Peninsula divisions.

SKETCHES FROM LIFE - By Temple



"Back at 9 Sharp."

SUIT FOR OMITTED TAXES AGAINST LYNCHBURG FIRM

Assessment For 1915 Is \$1,050,000 Greater Than For 1914 On Bon-sack Machine Company.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] LYNCHBURG, VA., December 31.—Officers and members of the board of directors of the Bon-sack Machine Company, a Lynchburg corporation, which has had its home office in the town of Salem since its incorporation in 1882, are being served with process in a suit which has been instituted in the Circuit Court of the County of Roanoke, in which the State of Virginia, the town of Salem and the County of Roanoke are jointly suing for alleged omitted taxes for a disclosure of assets of the company covering a period of years and for an injunction to prevent the proposed dissolution of the company, which is to be considered at a meeting of the stockholders to be held in Salem at 12:30 o'clock on January 11.

The bill recites the allegation that the defendant company has for a number of years been reporting its capital at \$1,000,000, which figure has been the assessment prior to the present year. In the assessment for 1915, the commissioner of the revenue made an assessment on capital against the company of \$1,050,000, which was \$50,000 in excess of previous assessments reported by the company for the purpose of taxation. The tax for 1915 under this assessment is shown to aggregate the sum of \$10,925.

Subsequent to the increased assessment by the commissioner of the revenue, W. M. Pierce, the examiner of records reported an assessment for omitted taxes for the years 1908-1914, inclusive, the aggregate tax on which would be \$7,137.82, this amount being in addition to the increased assessment for 1915.

In addition to the assessment for alleged omitted taxes for the years from 1908 through 1914, the bill asks the court to require the company to disclose the amount of the capital stock by it in its business for previous years from 1889 to 1907, inclusive, and to have the same assessed as in case of other omitted taxes.

Further than this the bill asks the court for a restraining order to enjoin and restrain the Bon-sack Machine Company from proceeding further in the purpose to dissolve the corporation until all of the taxes shall have been paid.

RETREAT FOR SICK IS GIVEN \$3,000 BY BRANCHES

Family of Late Financier Understood to Have Made a Number of Other Donations.

Lieutenant-Governor J. Taylor Ellison, on behalf of the Retreat for the Sick, yesterday acknowledged the receipt of \$3,000 from the family of the late John P. Branch, millionaire banker and philanthropist. Similar benefactions, in varying amounts, it became known yesterday, have been made to five or six other institutions in or near this city.

Members of the Branch family were present at the ceremony.

Miss Lillie Lassiter was hostess at cards on Thursday afternoon in honor of her guest, Miss Lenore Doggett, formerly of Richmond, but now of Hartford, Conn. Christmas decorations were used throughout, and those assisting in doing the honors were Mrs. James Christian Lamb and Mrs. Hugh McCurdy. About thirty guests were invited to meet Miss Doggett.

Kelly-Carter.

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Carter, of Warrenton, announce the marriage of their daughter, Martha Belle, to Harry Payne Kelly, on Thursday, December 30.

The ceremony was performed quietly at the bride's home, "Belmont," back from wedding trip.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Wins Wilkinson have returned from their bridal trip, and are now at home in Barton Heights. Mrs. Wilkinson was formerly Miss Lizzie Polzey, of Richmond.

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inclined to be extremely reticent in discussing the particulars. Requests of \$5,000 to Centenary Methodist Church and of \$2,500 to the Richmond Male Orphan Asylum have already been made public.

LARGE COAL TONNAGE

Chesapeake and Ohio Limited Only by Luck of Ship at Seaports.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway showed large gains in the tonnage of coal and coke loaded at all points on the road during the past year. Figures announced at the local offices of the road last night placed the coal and coke loaded during the year at 2,481,150 tons, as compared with 2,131,025 for 1914, an increase of 350,125 tons. During the year the road dumped 1,161,462 tons of coal and coke over the piers at Newport News. The figure for the preceding year was 2,231,349 tons, which shows an increase for 1915 of 929,885 tons. It was stated in official circles yesterday that the dumpings of coal and coke had been considerably greater if vessels could have been secured to handle the coal. For some time past there has been a shortage of ships at all seaports on the Atlantic Coast.

CONFER ON TAXES

Lawyers Here to Consult Attorney-General as to Marie Marshall Claim.

S. Otis Bland, of Newport News, and Frank Armistead, of counsel for the city of Williamsburg, in the controversy now pending in court over the claims of that city and the State of Virginia for taxes due by the Marie Marshall estate on many millions of dollars and which would be \$7,137.82, this amount being in addition to the increased assessment for 1915.

The Marie Marshall taxes case has been turned over largely by Attorney-General Pollard to Mr. Garrett, who has been busily engaged for some time in preparing the papers in the proceedings. While none of the lawyers concerned would discuss the nature of the conference, it is surmised that the object of the visit of the two attorneys to the Attorney-General's office was to agree on a plan of concerted action.

TAX INJUNCTION

State and City Restrained From Proceeding Against Tredgar Iron Works.

An injunction issued yesterday by Judge R. Carter Scott, of the City Circuit Court, restrains the State of Virginia and the city of Richmond from proceeding with the collection of certain taxes assessed against the property of the Tredgar Iron Company. In its petition, the company alleged that it had been erroneously assessed by the Commissioner of the Revenue Treasury and Examiner of Records, in respect to its capital, the claim being made that much of this, consisting of bank stock and stocks of Virginia corporations, was exempt. The restraining order stands until dissolved by a further order of the court.

JUVENILE COURT WILL OPEN ITS DOORS TO-DAY

Objections Are Raised to Proposed Schedule for Hearing Cases.

KEEPS MEN IN STATION HOUSE

Hardship Worked on Those Arrested and Unable to Furnish Bail—Justice Ricks Will Announce Appointment of Staff To-day.

Justice J. Hoge Ricks will cap his gavel on the desk, placed in a little room on the second floor of the city hall, located at 110 Capitol Street, within a stone's throw of the City Hall, at 10 o'clock this morning, and call to order the first session of the new Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. The need of such a court was made apparent some time ago, and recently the Council inaugurated it. Justice Ricks being appointed the head of the new court.

As planned and as it will be opened to-day, the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court will assume all of the duties formerly and in addition will have charge of all cases of family troubles and all cases in which one or more of the principals is a minor. Under the ordinance which gave the new court its powers, no minor will be allowed in the Police Court except as witness.

Fear that the tentative schedule for procedure in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court may not prove feasible, and that a number of changes will have to be made, if the organization of the court and its system of operation is to become a reality, was expressed by several persons familiar with the situation last night.

SCHEDULE PROPOSED

It is pointed out that the court intends trying what may be termed strictly juvenile cases on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and all other cases, such as non-support, wife-beating and family rows, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. This being true, a man arrested for wife-beating after a session of the court on Friday must remain in a police station cell until the following Monday before he can be tried. This is the case of course, where the person arrested cannot find a bondsman.

That would be the situation in such an arrest. But the Constitution says that a man arrested for an offense shall be given a speedy trial. And the Board of Police Commissioners is said to have passed orders that no prisoner is to be kept in a station-house cell for more than twenty-four hours. The prisoner, it is said, cannot be sent to jail for safe keeping until after he had been committed by a court.

Another eventuality that might arise could result if a man and woman were arrested for fighting. To the clerk's agent at the station-house they might lay claim to being married, and he accordingly would direct their being sent to the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. A later investigation might develop the fact that they were not married, in which event the case would have to be returned to the Police Court for trial. It could not be heard until the following day, and the prisoner or prisoners would be compelled to remain in custody overnight, unless bondmen could be secured.

A third possibility is that arising from the arrest of several youths and young men on a charge of fighting, for instance. It might be found that two of the young men are twenty-one

years or older and that the third is not of age. In this event, the minor would have to be tried by the new court while the others would have to appear before Justice Gratchfield.

POLICE KEEP MANY HOURS

IS COURT AS WITNESSES. And as a result of either of the two last mentioned instances, the policeman who figured in the arrest would be compelled to spend practically all of one day or a large part of two days in the various courts as witnesses. Under the present police system, it is not unusual for an officer to come off duty, after an all-night's tour of duty, at 7 o'clock in the morning and to be forced to report for another tour at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Should he have to appear in both courts, he would be prevented from getting practically any rest or sleep.

The one solution of this problem suggested thus far is that the court be held once for any cases that should come before it on all days of the week, and that its dockets be kept as clear as is possible. Justice Ricks has been in consultation with Major Werner and the various district captains for several days and will have many other conferences with them before the definite system of the court is inaugurated, it is said. In any event, the police has been reshaped by the Council and the methods of procedure will rest ultimately with the presiding justice.

Justice Ricks said last night that he had not appointed anyone for the clerkship, and that Miss Eleanor McCarthy would be continued for the present as office assistant. A. S. MacFarlane has been recommended to him as a probation officer for boys, and Justice Ricks said that he would probably ratify and announce the nomination and appointment today.

Miss Sarah Keller will be continued as probation officer for girl delinquents, and others are J. C. Perkins and J. W. Wicenton will be continued in their positions as probation officers in care of adult delinquents.

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